

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **February 2, 2004** the Examiner reviewed claims 1-61. Claims 11 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 3-6, 10-16, 18-21, 25-31, 33-36, and 40-61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rundensteiner et al. ("Maintaining Data Warehouses Over Changing Information Sources," ACM 2000, hereinafter "Rundensteiner"). Claims 2, 7-9, 17, 22-24, 32, and 37-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rundensteiner in view of Henninger, (USPN 5,499,371, hereinafter "Henninger").

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 11 and 26 were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claims 11 and 26 to depend upon claims 10 and 25, respectively, to provide antecedent basis for the obtaining step.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Independent claims 1, 16, 31, 47, and 56-61 were rejected as being anticipated by Rundensteiner.

Applicant respectfully submits the enclosed declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131, a true copy of weekly status reports covering the period January 3, 2000 to April 21, 2000, and a true copy of the Invention Disclosure Form relating to the instant invention that combined establish a date of invention on or before January 7, 2000 and a date of reduction to practice on or before March 10, 2000.


Rundensteiner has a date of publication of June 2000, which is later than March 10, 2000, and therefore, is not a valid prior art reference for the instant application.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 16, 31, 47, and 56-61 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-15, which depend upon claim 1, claims 17-30, which depend upon claim 16, claims 32-46, which depend upon claim 31, and claims 48-55, which depend upon claim 47, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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